

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Ernst BOCK et al.

Application No.: National Phase of  
PCT/EP2004/013103

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: SUPPORT ELEMENT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

An English abstract of the non-English language references is enclosed for some of the references, as indicated on the IDS Citation by Applicant submitted herewith.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

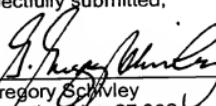
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 6281-000027/US/NP.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 6281-000027/US/NP from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
G. Gregory Schmley  
Registration No.: 27,382  
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600  
Attorneys for Applicant

16 MAY 2006

PTO-998a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/A/B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

107579457

Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith
First Named Inventor	Ernst Bock
Art Unit	N/A
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	6281-000027/US/NP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (# known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
AA*	US-5,588,165-B1	12-31-1996	Fromme, Heinrich		
AB*	US-3,815,886-A	06-11-1974	Graham et al		
AC	US-106069-A	08-02-1870	Lord, William		

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number-Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (# known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>5</sup>
BA	DE-2 015 659-A1	10-15-1970				
BB	WO-01/50923-A	07-19-2001				✓
BC	EP-1 046 381-A	10-25-2000				✓
BD	FR-2 102 588-A	04-07-1972				
BE	DE-20 2004 010142-U1	09-30-2004				
BF	DE-67 765-C	04-05-1893				
BG	DE-104 447-C	07-15-1899				
BH	WO-99/07259-A2	02-18-1999				✓
BI	EP-1 082 926-A1	03-14-2001				✓
BJ	EP-0 996 349-A*	05-03-2000				✓
BK	WO-9903379	01-28-1999				✓
BL	DE-197 59 149-C2	06-02-1999				✓
BM	DE-41 00 842-C1	05-21-1992				✓
BN	DE-203 17 840-U1	04-01-2004				

\* EP 0996 349-A corresponds to WO 99/03379

**EXAMINER:** Initial if references considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		International Search Report for PCT/EP2004/013103, May 18, 2005, ISA/EPO, Rijswijk, NL	

**EXAMINER:** Initial if references considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	/Christopher Schwartz/ (12/13/2010)	Date Considered	GGS/dl
--------------------	-------------------------------------	-----------------	--------

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /C.S./